

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Appln. No: To Be Assigned  
Applicant: Isamu NAKADE, et al.  
Filed: Herewith  
Title: DISK HOLDING APPARATUS AND DISK CHANGER  
APPARATUS (AS AMENDED)  
TC/A.U.: To Be Assigned  
Examiner: To Be Assigned  
Confirmation No.: To Be Assigned  
Docket No.: NGB-104US

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

S I R :

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98 and to the duty of disclosure set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, the Examiner in charge of the above-identified application is requested to consider and make of record the references listed on the PTO SB/08(a) and PTO SB/08(b) form submitted herewith. A copy of the references listed on the PTO SB/08(a) and PTO SB/08(b) are enclosed.

Although the information submitted herewith may be "material" to the Examiner's consideration of the subject application, this submission is not intended to constitute an admission that such information is "prior art" as to the claimed invention.

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(g), the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed to mean that a search has been made.

The following Japanese references are not in the English language:

- 1) 2002-074793
- 2) 09-326148
- 3) 2003-248991

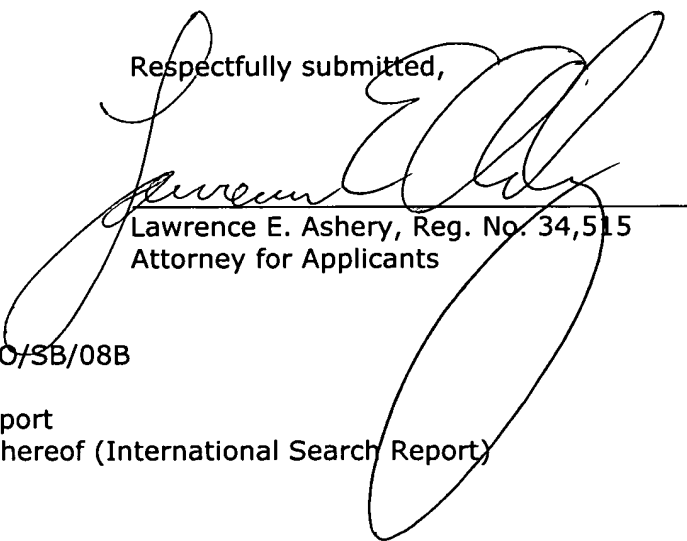
4) 10-283707

References 1) to 4) include an English language abstract. In addition, Reference 4) has a "concise explanation" under 37 CFR § 1.98(a)(3) as set forth in the background portion of the specification.

Further, References 1) to 3) were cited in a search report by a foreign Patent Office in a patent application corresponding to the above-identified patent application. A copy of this Japanese language search report and an English translation thereof, indicating the degree of relevance determined by the foreign patent office, are submitted herewith. MPEP Section 609 IIIA(3), second paragraph.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed concurrently with the above-referenced application.

Respectfully submitted,

  
Lawrence E. Ashery, Reg. No. 34,515  
Attorney for Applicants

LEA/fp

Enclosures: PTO/SB/08A and PTO/SB/08B  
(4) References  
Japanese Search Report  
English translation thereof (International Search Report)

Dated: July 24, 2006

P.O. Box 980  
Valley Forge, PA 19482-0980  
(610) 407-0700

The Commissioner for Patents is hereby authorized to charge payment to Deposit Account No. **18-0350** of any fees associated with this communication.

**EXPRESS MAIL: Mailing Label No.: EV 766 498 700 US**  
**Date of Deposit: July 24, 2006**

I hereby certify that this paper and fee are being deposited, under 37 C.F.R. § 1.10 and with sufficient postage, using the "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service of the United States Postal Service on the date indicated above and that the deposit is addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

  
DENNIS MCDERMOTT

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Substitute for Form 1449/PTO

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE  
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

**Complete if Known**

Application Number	To Be Assigned
Filing Date	Herewith
First Named Inventor	Isamu NAKADE, et al.
Art Unit	To Be Assigned
Examiner Name	To Be Assigned
Attorney Docket No.	NGB-104US

SHEET 1 of 2

**U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Document Number	Publication Date (MM-DD-YYYY)	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number - Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (if known)			

**FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS**

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date (MM-DD-YYYY)	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T <sup>6</sup>
		Country Code <sup>3</sup> - Number <sup>4</sup> - Kind Code <sup>5</sup> (if known)				
		JP 2002-074793 A (with English abstract)	03/15/2002	ALPINE ELECTRONICS, INC.		<input type="checkbox"/>
		JP 09-326148 A (with English abstract)	12/16/1997	ALPINE ELECTRONICS, INC.		<input type="checkbox"/>
		JP 2003-248991 A (with English abstract)	09/05/2003	MATSUSHITA ELEC IND CO LTD		<input type="checkbox"/>
		JP 10-283707 (with English abstract)	10/23/1998	NAKAMICHI CORP		<input type="checkbox"/>
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Examiner  
Signature

Date Considered

\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to Applicant.

<sup>1</sup>Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional).

<sup>2</sup>See Kind Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at [www.uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov) or MPEP 901.04.

<sup>3</sup>Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard St.3).

<sup>4</sup>For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document.

<sup>5</sup>Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible.

<sup>6</sup>Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language translation is attached.

The collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. **SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.**

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Substitute for Form 1449/PTO  <div style="text-align: center;"> <b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</b>  <i>(Use as many sheets as necessary)</i> </div>	<div style="text-align: center; border-bottom: 1px solid black; margin-bottom: 5px;"> <b>Complete if Known</b> </div> <table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 50%; border-bottom: 1px solid black;">Application Number</td> <td style="width: 50%; border-bottom: 1px solid black;">To Be Assigned</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="border-bottom: 1px solid black;">Filing Date</td> <td style="border-bottom: 1px solid black;">Herewith</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="border-bottom: 1px solid black;">First Named Inventor</td> <td style="border-bottom: 1px solid black;">Isamu NAKADE, et al.</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="border-bottom: 1px solid black;">Art Unit</td> <td style="border-bottom: 1px solid black;">To Be Assigned</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="border-bottom: 1px solid black;">Examiner Name</td> <td style="border-bottom: 1px solid black;">To Be Assigned</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="border-bottom: 1px solid black;">Attorney Docket No.</td> <td style="border-bottom: 1px solid black;">NGB-104US</td> </tr> </table>	Application Number	To Be Assigned	Filing Date	Herewith	First Named Inventor	Isamu NAKADE, et al.	Art Unit	To Be Assigned	Examiner Name	To Be Assigned	Attorney Docket No.	NGB-104US
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Attorney Docket No.	NGB-104US												
SHEET 2 of 2													

NON-PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS			
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published	T <sup>2</sup>
		Japanese Search Report for Application No. PCT/JP2005/000178, dated April 26, 2005, with English translation thereof.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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Examiner Signature	Date Considered
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